

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 IO-13 /092 W

-----222035 002700 /44

R 221330Z FEB 77

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1584

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDON DERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 059

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: BELFAST PROVISIONALS DENY CEASEFIRE PLANS

REF: (A) BELFAST 55 (B) BELFAST 51

1. PROVISIONAL IRA IN BELFAST HAS "....REPUDIATED THE SINISTER SPECULATION THAT EITHER A TRUCE IS PENDING OR THAT DIVISION EXISTS." STATEMENT FEBRUARY 18 FOLLOWED WEEK OF SPECULATION THAT PROVISIONAL IRA HAD BEEN MEETING WITH PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC CLERGY TO DISCUSS CEASEFIRE. ONE RUMOR HAD MEETING TAKING PLACE AT BAILIEBORO COUNTY CAVAN ON FEBRUARY 13 AND ARRANGED BY PROVISIONAL IRA VETERAN BILLIE MC KEE. SPECULATION CONTINUES WITH ABUNDANCE OF CONFLICTING THEORIES THAT BELFAST BRIGADE IS EITHER PRESSING FOR CEASEFIRE BECAUSE IT IS SO WEAKENED OR BELFAST BRIGADE IS RESISTING PRESSURE FOR CEASEFIRE FROM DUBLIN LEADERSHIP. BOMBING AND SHOOTING INCIDENTS PARTICULARLY KNEECAPPING ARE ON INCREASE IN BELFAST AND THIRTEEN BUSES WERE DESTROYED OVER WEEKEND IN REPUBLICAN AREAS.

2. IN COINCIDENT DEVELOPMENTS, JOHN MC KEAGUE SPOKESMAN FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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ULSTER LOYALIST CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (ULCCC) HAS PUT FORWARD A PEACE FORMULA CALLING ALL PARA-MILITARIES TO DECLARE A CEASEFIRE AND FOR TROOPS TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM STREETS TO BARRACKS. TALKS COULD THEN GO ON BETWEEN ALL PARTIES ON EXPLORATION OF NEGOTIATED INDEPENDENCE AS BASIS FOR PEACE. ULCCC IS UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FOR PROTESTANT PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE (UVF) AND RED

HAND COMMANDOS BUT EXCLUDING IMPORTANT ULSTER DEFENSE ASSOCIATION (UDA). LATTER ORGANIZATION HAS REACTED BY REJECTING ANY TALKS WITH PROVISIONAL IRA. THE UDA ALSO CLAIMED THAT MEMBERS OF ULCCC HAD MET WITH OFFICIAL AND PROVISIONAL IRA AND WITH ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY TO DISCUSS INDEPENDENCE FOR PROVINCE. UDA SPOKESMAN SAID MEMBERSHIP WOULD NOT MOVE AWAY FROM BRITISH LINK. HE SAID THAT HE AGREED WITH ULCCC HOWEVER THAT TROOPS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN TO BARRACKS IF SECURITY DUTIES WERE DEVOLVED TOTALLY TO ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY AND ULSTER DEFENSE REGIMENT.

SPICER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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